

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-10 EUR-25 ACDA-19

CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SSO-00 CCO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /154 W

----- 013145

R 062308Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2991

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

CONFIDENTIAL USUN 775

FROM AMB SCALI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN MARR XF XA

SUBJ: UNEF

1. IN COURSE CONVERSATION WITH UNSYG WALDHEIM MAR 6 FOLLOWING HIS RETURN FROM AFRICA, I ASKED ABOUT REPORTS OF HIS DISCUSSIONS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE UNEF NEED FOR NEW CONTINGENTS FROM AFRICA. WALDHEIM SAID THAT GOWON AND OTHERS HAD RAISED THIS ISSUE DURING HIS LAGOS STOP, URGING THAT NIGERIAN CONTINGENT BE ACCEPTED. WALDHEIM SAID HE TOLD GOWON THAT IF THERE WERE "ROTATION" OF CONTINGENTS IN FUTURE, THERE POSSIBILITY NIGERIA MIGHT REPLACE ANOTHER AFRICAN CONTINGENT SUCH AS THAT OF GHANA. WALDHEIM SAID IT HAD ALSO OCCURRED TO HIM THAT ZAIRE MIGHT ULTIMATELY REPLACE SENEGALESE CONTINGENT. HE HAD MADE NO PROMISES TO ANYONE.

2. I SAID THIS WAS FIRST TIME I HAD HEARD ANYONE USE THE WORD "ROTATION" WITH RESPECT TO NATIONAL CONTINGENTS IN UNEF. I RECOGNIZED THAT AT SOME POINT A CONTINGENT MIGHT BE WITHDRAWN AND HAVE TO BE REPLACED. I VERY MUCH

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HOPED, HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD NOT GIVE CURRENCY TO "ROTATION"

CONCEPT. US GOVT FOR ITS PART WOULD NEED A GOOD DEAL OF TIME TO CONSIDER WHETHER PRINCIPLE OF "ROTATION" IS GOOD ONE. IT SEEMED TO MEAT FIRST BLUSH THAT FLOATING ROTATION CONCEPT COULD PLAY INTO HANDS OF SOVIETS, WHO MIGHT USE CONCEPT AS BASIS FOR EVENTUAL EFFORT TO REPLACE POLISH CONTINGENT WITH ANOTHER EE NATIONALITY. THIS WOULD UPSET DELICATE BALANCE THAT HAD BEEN NEGOTIATED WITH CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY. I TOLD WALDHEIM I HOPED HE WOULD HOLD HIS FIRE ON THIS ONE UNTIL WE COULD DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER, PERHAPS WITH URQUHART.

3. WALDHEIM EMPHASIZED THAT HE HAD NOT MADE ANY UNDERTAKINGS WHATSOEVER TO NIGERIANS OR ANYONE ELSE, BUT HAD MENTIONED POSSIBILITY, WHICH SEEMED TO HIM REAL, THAT AT SOME STAGE NIGERIAN, ZAIRIANS, OR OTHER AFRICAN TROOPS WOULD BE NEEDED. HE WENT ON TO OBSERVE BY WAY OF INDIRECT DEFENSE OF HIS LINE THAT HE HAD REALIZED BELATEDLY THAT ODERO-JOWI HAD BEEN PLAYING A VERY PERSONAL GAME WHILE SERVING AS "BROKER" OF AFRICAN PARTICIPATION IN UNEF. ODERO-JOWI HAD PUT FORWARD KENYA'S ENTRY ONLY TO HAVE IT EMERGE LATER THAT KENYATTA NOT INTERESTED IN KENYAN PARTICIPATION EXCEPT ON BASIS OF ADVANCE UN FUNDING WHICH NOT POSSIBLE. IT WAS NATURAL THAT ZAIRE AND NIGERIA WERE UPSET TO HAVE BEEN INITIALLY FROZEN OUT OF UNEF OWING TO KENYAN MANEUVERING.

BENNETT

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